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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

CASTALDI et al

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

International Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/05722

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: January 9, 2002

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108907-00024

For: A PROCESS FOR OBTAINING (NITROXYMETHYL)PHENYL ESTERS OF  
SALICYLIC ACID DERIVATIVES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 9, 2002

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows. A copy of the marked up original  
claims is attached to this response showing the changes as set forth in amended 37  
CFR 1.121.

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein in step a) the organic  
solvents are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> aliphatic alcohols; aromatic hydrocarbons, aliphatic esters,  
chlorinated organic solvents, aliphatic and cycloaliphatic ketones.